



Smithsonian

National Air and Space Museum

William E. G. Taylor Collection

2002

National Air and Space Museum Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Air and Space Museum Archives
Title:	William E. G. Taylor Collection
Date:	[ca. 1920s-1970s]
Identifier:	NASM.1999.0033
Creator:	Taylor, William E. G., 1905-1991
Extent:	1.14 Cubic feet ((1 slim legal document box) (1 flatbox))
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Connie J. Ford-Miller, Gift, 1998, 1999-0033, NASM

Restrictions

No restrictions on access

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

William E. G. Taylor (1905-1991) was an aviator for the United States Navy, the United States Marine Corps, the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve. Taylor enrolled at the Guggenheim College of Aeronautical Engineering at New York University, but left to join the Naval Reserves in 1925. He received his Naval pilot's license in 1927 and was assigned to Fighting Squadron Five, Scouting Fleet. He resigned in 1928 when his squadron was ordered to inactive status and he then joined the US Marine Corps Reserve, where he was an aviator from 1928-1933. In 1933, he was again ordered to inactive status. At this point Taylor left the Armed Services and became a pilot for United Airlines. In 1939, however, he joined the Fleet Air Arm, Royal Navy, where he was in combat operations aboard the HMS Furious and HMS Glorious. Taylor then joined the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve and became the first Squadron leader for the Eagle Squadron (71 Squadron, RAF), January - June 1941. In June, Taylor left the Eagle Squadron and rejoined the United States Naval Reserve, 1941-1951 where he served on the following vessels: Lexington, Yorktown, Wasp, Enterprise, Saratoga, and Ranger. After the war, Taylor was, among other posts, the commanding officer of Project Afirm and the commanding officer for the Night Attack and Training Unit, Atlantic (NACTU). In 1951 Taylor resigned from the Navy Reserves and worked first for Braniff Airlines in Panama, and then as a Vice President for Scandinavian Airlines System.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of the following types of material documenting Taylor's remarkable aviation career: two scrapbooks, photographs, invitations, correspondence, identification cards, newspaper articles, Eagle Squadron Association material, Armed Forces memoranda, and biographical information. The scrapbooks contain material mostly highlighting Taylor's aviation career and the countries where he served; however, there are also photographs of Russia before the 1917 Revolution.

General

NASMrev

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Aeronautics
- Aeronautics, Military
- Air pilots
- Aircraft carriers
- Airlines
- Fighter pilots
- World War, 1939-1945

Types of Materials:

- Articles
- Clippings
- Correspondence
- Ephemera
- Photographs
- Scrapbooks

Names:

- Enterprise (Aircraft carrier : CV-6)
- Great Britain. Royal Air Force
- Great Britain. Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve
- Great Britain. Royal Air Force. 71 Squadron (Eagle Squadron)
- Great Britain. Royal Naval Air Service
- Lexington (Aircraft carrier : 1927-1942)
- Ranger (Aircraft carrier : CV-4)
- Saratoga (Aircraft carrier : CV-3)
- Scandinavian Airlines System
- United States. Marine Corps
- United States. Navy
- United States. Navy -- Aviation
- United States. Navy. Night Attack and Training Unit, Atlantic
- Wasp (Aircraft carrier : CVS-18)
- Yorktown (Aircraft carrier, CV-10)

Places:

Russia -- Politics and government -- 1894-1917